

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to methods and apparatus for performing microanalytic and microsynthetic analyses and procedures. The invention provides a microsystem platform and a micromanipulation device for manipulating the platform that utilizes the centripetal force resulting from rotation of the platform to motivate fluid movement through microchannels. The invention specifically provides devices and methods for performing miniaturized *in vitro* amplification assays such as the polymerase chain reaction. Methods specific for the apparatus of the invention for performing PCR are provided.